PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
    Scott H. Hutchinson, et al.

Serial No.: 09/233,860

Filed: January 20, 1999

For: SOFTWARE-IMPLEMENTED METHOD FOR
     IDENTIFYING NODES ON A NETWORK

Group Art Unit: 2756

Examiner: William D. Thomson 703-305-0022

Atty. Dkt. No.: BVEW:154/TOE

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION
I certify that this paper is being transmitted by FAX to the Patent and Trademark Office at 703-308-1398 on the date written below.

Date: 14 Feb 00   _D C Thell_
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AMENDMENT B,
RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 12, 1999 OFFICE ACTION,
and
SUMMARY OF TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

This paper is intended to serve as a complete response to the Office action mailed November 12, 1999. Please charge any required fees for additional claims and/or for any required extension of time to the deposit account of Arnold, White & Durkee, account no. 01-2508, order no. BVEW:154/CAI.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. All claims are re-presented below for convenient reference, whether or not amended.

These amendments are made without prejudice to possible re-presentation of one or more canceled or amended claims in their original form in a continuing application.

1   1. (twice amended) A method, executed by a node on a network, said node comprising at least

2   one asset, of transmitting [identifying] asset-management information about the node, the method compris-

3   ing:

4   (a) determining a current address value of a network interface card of the node, referred

5   to as a NIC address value;

6   (b) retrieving, from a data storage at the node, a former NIC address value for the node;

7   and

8   (c) transmitting asset-management information concerning the node together with the

9   current NIC address value and the former NIC address value.